



St. Columba's Church
Douglas
 021-489 4128 (Office)
 087-261 7143

Douglas/Rochestown
Parish

St. Patrick's Church
Rochestown
 021-489 6797
 (Office)



Sunday Mass
 Sat Vigil 6.00pm
 Sun 9.30am & 11.00am

Sunday 28th Jan '24

Sunday Mass
 Sun 11.00am &
 12.30pm

 **DouglasRochestownParish**

www.douglasrochestownparish.ie

BAPTISMS

We welcome to the Christian community the following who were baptised recently:

Sean Maurice Sexton, son of Niamh & Billy, Kiltegan Lawn, Rochestown.

Holly Marie Sweeney, daughter of Orla & Sean, Mount Oval, Rochestown.

NEWS DESK

Finance: The Offertory Collection last Sunday: **St. Columba's: €2088. St. Patrick's: €1380.** *Many Thanks for your generosity.* **St. Vincent de Paul Church door Collection next weekend.**

- **First Friday: 2 Feb '24. ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT. 10.30am - 12.45pm.** (Except when funeral in church, then adoration in Parish Centre)
- **Mon 5 Feb '24 - ST. BRIGID'S DAY - Public Holiday**
- **CHRISTIAN MEDITATION IN ST. COLUMBA'S PARISH CENTRE** - Each Thursday morning after 10.00am Mass. It lasts just about half an hour. *You will be most welcome. Come along and give it a try.*
 Contact: Parish Office 021 4894128.

NOTICES

SYCAMORE SERIES - In response to a call from young adults to be better formed in their Catholic Faith, UCC Chaplaincy, the Presentation Brothers, and the Diocese of Cork and Ross have come together to host a Sycamore Series. The Sycamore Series is an informal course for those aged 18-35 helping people to deepen their understanding and knowledge of the Catholic faith. Each session involves a short film and time for discussion with a meal also included. *Everyone is welcome.* Start date: **WED 31st JAN '24, 6pm to 8pm**, at Presentation Brothers' Mardyke House, Cork T12 W8RP. The course runs for 10 consecutive weeks with a break for Easter. The course is free, but places are limited. Please email: chaplaincy@ucc.ie or ring 021 490 2459.

BALLINHASSIG PARISH FUNDRAISING CONCERT with THE CELTIC TENORS **Feb 9th '24 @ 8pm** in **Mary Mother of God Church, Ballygarvan.** Tickets €30, available from PARISH OFFICE 021 4885062; 086 3183645; 086 8137203 www.ballinhassigparish.com with buy tickets link on home page or eventbrite.ie link <https://ballinhassigparish.eventbrite.com>. Cottrells Gala Ballinhassig or Daybreak Ballygarvan. *All proceeds will go reducing the PARISH DEBT.*

LOURDES CORK AND ROSS DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE, 20th - 25th SEP '24. 5 nights full board from: €899pps Ex Cork . Pilgrim Booking available from Joe Walsh Tours Tel: 01-2410800. BOOKING OF THE OFFICIAL SICK / ASSISTED SECTION Tel: 085 25 25 040 Email: lourdes@corkandross.org

HELPERS, NURSES AND CARE ASSISTANTS NEEDED 085 25 25 040.

Feast Days Week Commencing 29 JAN '24

THU 1st FEB '24 - ST. BRIGID OF IRELAND, the patroness of Ireland, whose life has relevance and inspiration for us as we try to face the issues that confront our country and our world at this time. The feast of St Brigid on the 1st of February is a celebration of the wonderful springing back of the earth from its winter sleep. It is the season when we celebrate new beginnings and new life on earth. The sod is turned. The day lengthens. Seeds are sown and sails are hoisted.

FRI 2nd FEB '24 - PRESENTATION OF THE LORD - When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord — observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.' As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected — and a sword will pierce your own soul too — so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 28 January 2024

'In this first chapter Mark familiarises his readers with the type of things Jesus did to proclaim the kingdom, the Reign of God. Our passage today touches on two of these, the first being that 'he taught as one having authority'. It makes a difference when you listen to someone who is clearly speaking from experience and personal knowledge. Remember people who impressed you in this way.

Jesus' combined teaching with healing, and he drove the evil spirit out of the man. The power of God that worked this wonder through Jesus is also at work in and through us today. When have you been freed from some bad habit? The evil spirit convulsed the man before it left him. The path to liberation can be a painful struggle. If you have found it so, who was the Jesus person that helped you through the struggle to freedom?

It is not only individuals but groups that can be struggling with an evil spirit — jealousy, rivalry, malicious gossiping, abuse of power, etc. Sometimes a Jesus person comes into the group and drives out that evil spirit. Have you experienced this? Perhaps you yourself have been this person on some occasion?'

Intercom.